



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY 63D REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
4235 YORKTOWN AVENUE
LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA 90720-5002

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFRC-CCA-PRH-A

12 Sep 03

MEMORANDUM SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Letter, 03-05, 63d RRC Wartime Awards

1. The purpose of this letter is provide guidance to unit commanders regarding recognition of our soldiers upon their return from active duty in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. As leaders, it is our responsibility to ensure that our deserving soldiers receive recognition for their hard work and tireless efforts in support of the above operations. Unfortunately, some of these deserving soldiers may not have received recognition from their active duty commands.

2. Recognition for those deserving soldiers can be in the form of an Award Decoration (see Chart 1 below for applicable awards during peacetime and wartime conditions), Commander's Coin, a Certificate of Appreciation from the 63d Regional Readiness Command or combinations thereof. It is vitally important that we recognize these deserving soldiers before or during their first drill after their REFRAD.

3. To ensure timely recognition and processing of any deserving awards, I am directing the following actions to all commanders and my G-1 staff section.

- a. An Army Achievement Medal (AAM) is not authorized while in a war zone. However, if the commander believes the soldier warrants an AAM for efforts and/or achievements prior to the actual mobilization and/or time spent after the mobilization he/she may submit a DA Form 638 to this HQ. In Part III, #20, Justification and Citation Data, there should be a minimum of two achievements noted.
- b. If the commander feels an Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) was warranted but not processed in theater, he/she may submit a DA Form 638 to this HQ recognizing the soldiers' efforts and/or achievements during the entire period. In Part III, #20, Justification and Citation Data, there should be a minimum of three achievements noted.
- c. Part I, Soldier Data #11 a-b must specify the inclusive dates: example 17 Nov 02 to 28 Apr 03. See attachments 1 & 2 as examples of Award Recommendations.
- d. The DA 638 must be a one-page document head to toe with original signatures and may be Faxed as soon as possible to the Awards Program Manager, 63d RRC 562-795-2189 for immediate processing. If DA 638s are Faxed, original 638s must be sent to 63d RRC G-1, attention Ms Terry Lemberger, as soon as possible.

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- e. G-1 will process DA 638s, print the applicable certificates, provide medals and return items to the unit prior to its first MUTA after demobilization. If unit requires award items prior to first MUTA, coordination with G-1 will take place for a specific date.
- f. REFERENCE: AR 600-8-22 dated 25 February 1995 and 63d RSC Military Awards and Military Awards Program Guidelines dated 14 January 2003.

Chart 1
Award Decorations Applicable for Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle

Award	Heroism	Achievement or Service	Approving Authority
Bronze Star Medal (BSM)	Combat	War or Peace Time Operations	SAC serving in rank of LTG
Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM)	Combat or Noncombat	War or Peace Time Operations	MG or BG. Can be delegated to 06 level Cdr
Army Achievement Medal (AAM)		Peace Time Operations	MG or BG. Can be delegated to 06 level Cdr

4. In addition to the Awards information above, soldiers will also qualify for various Medals as a result of their support of the noted Operations (see Chart 2 below for Medals and explanations).

Chart 2
Medals Associated with Current Military Operations

Specific Medal	Mobilized Operation for RC Members	Qualifying Information
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with bronze "M" device	Operation Iraqi Freedom	Must have performed active duty service in support of call-up or a designated contingency operation on or after 11 Sep 01.
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with bronze "M" device	Operation Enduring Freedom/Noble Eagle	Must have performed active duty service in support of call-up or a designated contingency operation on or after 11 Sep 01. Mob order will serve as documentation for wear of award.
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with bronze "M" device	Operation Allied Force (Kosovo), Desert Shield, /Storm, Restore Hope	
National Defense Service Medal (bronze star on ribbon for second & subsequent award dates)	NDSM awarded for These inclusive dates. 1 Jan 61- 14 Aug 74 2 Aug 90 – 30 Nov 95 11 Sep 01 - TBD	Termination date for eligibility for the 11 Sep 01 medal will be determined in future. Permanent orders not needed to issue this medal.

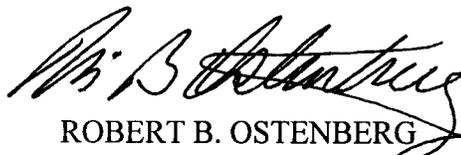
Chart 2 (continued)
Medals Associated with Current Military Operations

Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Expeditionary Medal**	Operation Enduring Freedom	Recognize service members who participate in an expedition to combat terrorism on or after Sep 11, 2001. Medal is limited to those who deploy for Operation Enduring Freedom.
Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Service Medal**	Operation Noble Eagle	Recognize service in military operations to combat terrorism on or after September 11, 2001. This medal is limited to Operation Noble Eagle and to those service members who provide support to Operation Enduring Freedom from outside the area of eligibility designated for the GWPT Expeditionary Medal.
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal**		
Armed Forces Service Medal**		

**Specific eligibility for these medals will be established by DoD award policy. The combatant commander has the authority to award the medals for approved operations to units and personnel deployed within his or her theater. Department of the Army will prescribe the appropriate regulations for processing and wearing of the medals. As of the date of this memorandum, no additional specific guidance has been received regarding the GWOT Medals

5. I am directing demobilizing unit commanders to immediately identify those deserving soldiers who did not receive an award in theater to begin the recommendation process upon arrival at Home Station.

6. Questions or comments regarding implementation and/or administration of the above items can be directed to the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, Awards Program Manager, Ms Terry Lemberger, 562-795-1082.


 ROBERT B. OSTENBERG
 Major General, USAR
 Commanding

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